

ARTICLES
To be enquired of by
the Church-wardens

and Sworne-men, within the pecu-
liar Jurisdiction of the Deane and
Chapter of the Cathedrall Church
of S. Peter in Exeter.



AT LONDON,
Printed by Thomas Purfoot.
An. Dom. 1609.



53. Any other thing ecclesiastical heretofore in this Diocese, or in any vicarages, or parishes, churches, or townships, house of any religious house, or any other ecclesiastical institution, (except) any other thing or offices, to which are remain dependent, or connected, by custom, reward, gift, purchase, friendship, or any other partial or affectionate respect, or any of them have bin burdensome to any in this Diocese, by creating or taking excessive fees, excessive procurations, any rewards, or connections, by the way of promotion, gift, contribution, help, redemption of penance, or other of quarter sermons, obliging of any benefices, or offices, or any other like waies or means.

54. What many gaming, or sports, and forfeitures, are notoriously known to have bin committed in your parish, since Easter. 55. What many offenders in any such kind have bin put to open penance, and openly corrected, and what many offenders bin punished at, and by what authority, or by their deputies, or to the Deans, Registrars, or Vicars, or any of them, so, to escape open punishment, and correction: and what their names and surnames be.

56. Whether the Deans, Vicars, and Vicars, or any of them do pay any annual rent, fee, or pension for their offices, and what they pay, and to whom.

57. Generally whether there be among you, any notorious evil liars, or any suspected of any notorious sin, fault, or crime, to the offence of Christian people committed, any that stubbornly refuse to conform themselves to true and good religion, now established by public authority, or any that butt in spreading rumors of alteration of the same, or other wise that disturbeth good orders, or the quietness of Christs church, and the Christian congregations.

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**The tenor of the Oath of the Church-
wardens and Sworne-men.**

YOU shall sweare, that upon due consideration of these Articles
given you in charge, you shall present euery such person of or
within your Parish, as you shall knowe to haue committed any
offence, or omitted any dutie mentioned in any of these Articles, or
which are publikely defamed, or vehemently suspected of any such of-
fence or negligence: So helpe you God, by the contents of his holy
Gospel.



Printed by Thomas Purfoot
at the Dove in St. Dunstons Church
1600.



Touching the Church.



WHETHER is your Church or Chappell with the Chauncell thereof, and euery part of either of them, well and sufficiently repayed, the windowes well glased, the floores paved plaine and even, without dunt, or any thing noysome, or vnseemly.

2 Whether is your Churchyard well fenced with walles, rayles, pales, as hath bene accustomed; if not, whose default is it.

3 Whether hath there bin any fighting, chiding, brawling or quarrelling, any playes, feasts, tempoꝛall Courts or Leets, lay Iuries, Purses, or other prophane vsage in your Church or churchyard any Bells superstitiously rung on Holy-dates, or their Eues, or at any other time without godd cause, allotted by the Minister, & Churchwardens: haue any trees bin felled in your churchyard, & by whom?

4 Whether is the Parson house of your Parson, Vicar, or Curate, with al the buildings thereunto belonging, your Parish, Almshouse, and Church-house sufficiently repayed, maintayned, and to godly, and their right vses employed.

5 Whether haue you in your Church, the Bible in the largest volume, the Booke of common Prayer lately authoꝛised by his Maiestie, the booke of Homilies allowed, & two Psalters, a convenient Pulpit for the preaching, a decent seat for the Minister to read service in, conveniently placed, a strong chest with a hole in the lid, and thre locks and keyes, one for the Minister, the other for the Church-wardens for the almes of the poore, and the keeping of the Register Booke of the Chrissenings, Marriages, and Burials.

6 Whether haue you in your Church, a Font of stone for baptisme set in the ancient vsuall place, a decent Table for & Communion conveniently placed, covered with silke, or other decent stuffe in time of diuine Service, and with a faire linnen cloth ouer that, at the administration of the Communion.

7 Whether haue you all such Bells, Ornaments, & other Utensils as haue ancientlie belonged to your Church, a communion cup of siluer with a couer, a faire standing pot or Scoope of pewter or purer mettall, for the wine vpon the communion table, a comely surples with sleeves, a Register Booke of parchment of chrissenings, marriages, & burials,

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als, a booke for þ names of al strange Preachers subscribed with their names and the name of the Bishop or others where they had license:

8 Whether is the almes for your poore quarterly at the least distributed by you the Churchwardens and the Minister in the presence of five of the chiefe Parishioners, to your poore? And are wakenly the names and surnames of all persons married, christened, and buried and of their Parents with the day & yeare entred in your said parishment books, and is every lease being full, subscribed by you the Minister and Churchwardens.

9 Whether are the ten Commandements set vp in the East end of the Church, and other chosen Sentences of holy Scripture vpon the walls in conuenient places, are all your seats in your Church in good repaire cleanlie kept, conuenientlie placed, and the parishioners in the or elsewhere orderly set, and is there no contention or striving for any seat or place amongst them?

Touching the Ministrie, Seruice, and Sacrament.

Whether is the common prayer said or sung by your Minister both morning and euening distinctly and reverently every Sunday and Holy day, and on their Euenes, and at conuenient and vsuall times of those daies, and in most conuenient place of the Church for the edifying of the people?

2 Whether doth your Minister obserue the orders, rites, and ceremonies prescribed in the booke of common prayer, in reading the holy Scriptures, Prayers, & administration of the Sacraments, without diminishing in regard of preaching or any other respect, or adding any thing in the matter or forme thereof.

3 Whether doth your Minister on wednesdaies and fridaies not being holy daies at the accustomed houres of Seruice, resort to the Church and say the Letanie prescribed, and doth your Clarke or Serfont give warning before by tolling of a bell on those daies.

4 Whether doth your Minister as oft as he administreth the communion, first receiue it himselfe: whether doth he vse any bread or wine newly brought, before the words of Institution be rehearsed, and the bread and wine present on the table, doth he not deliuer the bread and wine to euery communicant seuerally?

5 Whether doth your Minister give warning publicly in þ church at morning prayer on the Sunday before he administreth the Communion, for the better preparation of the Parishioners?

6 Whether hath your Minister admitted to the Communion any

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notorious sinner openly knowne or defamed, or any who hath openly and maliciously contended with his neighbour, before repentance and reconciliation made and done by appointment of the ordinary?

7 Whether hath your Minister admitted to the Communion any Church-warden or Side-man, who hath wittingly and willingly neglected contrary to his oath, to present any publique offence or scandall, being moued to present either by some of his Neighbours, the Minister, or his Ordinary?

8 Whether hath your Minister administered the communion to any but such as kneele? or doe any refuse to kneele? hath he administered to any who refuseth to be present at publique Prayer: or who hath despaued the Booke of common Prayer: administration of the Sacraments, or the rights and ceremonies prescribed or the Articles of Religion agreed upon, or the Booke of ordering Priests, and Bishops: or against his Maiesties Supremacie: or haue any bene for these causes repelled, and haue they repented in writing, or otherwise, and what be their names?

9 Whether hath your Minister more Benefices the one if he haue, how farre distant are they, how often is he absent in the yeare: when he is absent, hath he an allowed Preacher for his Curate?

10 Whether is your Minister an allowed Preacher: if he be, doth he euery Sunday in your Church, or some other nere adioyning where no Preacher is, preach one Sermon euery Sunday?

11 Whether doth your Minister being no Preacher allowed, presume to expound the Scripture in his owne Cure, or else where doth he procure euery moneth a Sermon to bee preached in his Cure by Preachers lawfully licensed, and on euery Sunday when there is no Sermon doth he or his Curate read some one of the Homilies prescribed?

12 Whether is your Curate allowed by the Ordinary vnder his hand and seale to serue in your Cure, and whether doth he serue two churches or chappels in one day?

13 Whether doth your Minister alwaies in saying the publique Prayers and administering the Sacraments, weare a decent surplesse with sleeves, and being a Graduate, doth he alwaies weare therewith a Hode by the order of the Antiuersities, agreeably to his degree.

14 Whether hath your Minister or any other Preacher in your Church, preached any thing to confute or impugne any doctrine belieued by any other Preacher, and hath he and they prayed for Christs Catholike Church, as is prescribed by the Canon?

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15 Whether hath, or doth any preach in your Church which refuseth to conforme himselfe to the Lawes, Rites, and Ordinances established, or which hath not first shewed a sufficient licence?

16 Whether doth your minister in his sermons foure times in the yeare at the least, teach and declare the Kings Maiesties power within his Realmes, to be the highest power vnder God, to whom al with in the same, owe most loyalty and obedience, and that all sovraine power is iustlie taken away?

17 Whether doth your Minister every Sunday & Holy-day halfe an houre before Evening prayer or more, examine and instruct the youth in the ten Commandements, the Beliefe, the Lords prayer, and the Catechisme, set forth in the Booke of common prayer?

18 Whether hath your Minister married any which haue not bin these feneral Sundaires or Holy-daies asked in your Church in þ time of diuine service without license, or hath he with licence or without married any whereof neither dwelt in your Parish?

19 Whether hath your Minister with licence or without, married any at any other times than betwixt the houres of Eight & Twelue in the fore-noone, or in any priuate house, or when there is no license, before their Parents or Governours, (the parties being vnder þ age of 21) haue testified their consents?

20 Whether doth your Minister declare to the people every Sunday at the time appointed, what Holy-daies or Fasting daies be in the weeke following: doth he being a Preacher confer with all Recusants and persons excommunicate or suspended & bearing no Preacher doth he procure a sufficient Preacher to reclaime them thereby?

21 Whether doth your Minister keepe a Rote of all persons excommunicate, and once every five moneths, doth he denounce them which haue not obtained their absolution, on some Sunday in service time, that others may be admonished to refraine their company?

22 Whether doth your Minister hauing notice giuen him, diligently visite the sicke (the disease not being infectious) doth he instruct and comfort them, doth he then mooue them to make their Testaments, and remember the poore, and other workes of charity, and the passing-bell tolling, doth he then neglect his last dutie?

23 Whether hath your Minister refused to baptize anie Child brought to the Church vpon any Sunday or Holy-day, or to burie any Corps brought into the Church or churchyard; or to church any women, hauing had warning thereof.

24 Whether

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24 Whether hath your Minister being truly enformed of the danger of death of any Infant unbaptized, and being desired to go to the place where the child is, to baptise it, neglected to goe, by meanes whereof the child died unbaptized?

25 Whether doth your Minister at any time preach or administer the communion in any private house, except when any are so impotent, that they cannot goe to Church, or very dangerouslie sicke.

26 Whether do any Chaplens, in your parish preach or administer the Sacrament in any Chappell not consecrated, or in any house having no Chappell allowed by law, and doe the Lords and Pastors where such chappels are, resort often to the parish Church, and there receiue the communion once at the least every yeare?

27 Whether hath your Minister held or appointed any publike fast, or bene present at such, doth he or any other in your parish hold any Lecture or Exercise, or attempt by fasting or prayer, or otherwise to cast out any Devils, without the license of the Bishop vnder his hand and seale?

28 Whether hath there bene any secret conventicles or meetings in your parish by any Priests, Ministers, or others, tending to the depraving of the forme of prayer, doctrine, or government of the Church?

29 Whether doth your Minister and Preacher, being at the least a Master of Arts, or Bachelor of Law, usually weare his Colours with a standing collar, and sleeves straight at the hand, or wide sleeves, and therewithall a Hood or tippet of silke or sarcenet, and a square cap?

30 Whether doth your Minister having not attained those degrees, weare the like Colours, and square cap with a tippet?

31 Whether doth your Minister in his iourney weare a cloak with sleeves called a priests cloak with garbs, welts, long buffens, or cuts?

32 Whether doth your Minister weare a wrought night-cap at any time, or doth he weare any cut or pinkt apparell, doth he in publike goe in his Dublet and Hose without a coat or cassocke, and doth he weare any light coloured stockings?

33 Whether doth your Minister resort to any Taverns, or Alehouses, except for his honest necessities, or doth he boorde or lodge in any such place, doth he use any base or servile labour, drinking, ryot, dice, cardes, tables, or any other unlawfull games? is hee contentions, a hunter, halwer, sweaver, dancer, suspected of incontinencie, or give any example of life?

34 Whether is there in your Parish any Minister or Deacon who hath

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hath forsake his calling, blesing himself in his course of life as a lay mā:
 Touching Schoole-masters.

Whether hane you in your Parish any Schoole-master, who teacheth either in publike Schoole, or private house: doth he give any euill example of life, is hee allowed by the Ordinary vnder his hand and seale, or doth your minister or Curate teach, and is hee allowed in like manner?

2 Whether doth your minister or Scholemaster, who teacheth, teach the Catechisme by authoritie set forth, doth he when there is any Sermon, or diuine seruice, bring his Schollers to Church, and see them quietly and soberly ordered, doth he examine them after their returne what they haue learned of the sermon?

3 Whether doth he at other times teach them such sentences of holy Scripture, as may induce them to all goodnesse, doth he teach the Grammer set forth by King Henry the Eight, continued by King Edward the first, and Queen Elizabeth?

4 Whether hath your Scholemaster an Ather vnder him, are they both diligent, is your Ather allowed by the Ordinary, doth your Scholemaster direct his Ather in forme & manner of teaching and doth he weekly take account of him & the Schollers vnder his charge how they haue profited, & what they haue learned & out of what author?

5 Whether hath either of them spoken, writt, or taught against any thing wherunto he formerly subscribed as in things supremacy, & Articles of religion, booke of common prayer, or any thing therein contained?

Touching the Parish Clarke and Sexton.

Whether haue you a parish Clarke sufficient for his place of his age of 20 yeares at the least, is he of honest conuersation, can he reade, write, and sing, is he diligent in his office, and seruiceable to his minister?

2 Whether doth your Clarke meddle with any thing about his Office, as churching of women, burying the dead, reading of prayers, or such like?

3 Whether doth your Clarke or Sexton keepe your Church clean, the doores safe locked, is any thing by his default lost or spoiled in the Church, doth he suffer any unreasonable ringing, or any prophane exercise in your church?

4 Whether doth your Clarke or Sexton, when any is passing out of this life, neglect to toll a bell hauing notice thereof, or the party being dead, doth he suffer any more than one short peale, and before his buriall

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buriall one, and after the same another?

5 Whether doth any of your Parish refuse to pay vnto the Parish claier 02 Sexton such wages as are vnto them due, and haue been accustomed paid.

Touching Parishioners.

Whether hath any in your parish spoken against, 02 any way impugned the Kings Maiesties Supremacie in causes Ecclesiasticall, the Truth and Doctrine of the Church of England, & forme of Gods worship contained in the Booke of common Prayer, and administration of Sacraments?

2 Whether hath any in your parish spoken against, 02 impugned & Articles of religion, agreed vpon in An. 1602. the rites, & ceremonies established in the church, the gouernment by Archbishops, Bishops, Deanes, Archdeacons and others that beare office in the same?

3 Whether hath any in your parish spoken against, 02 impugned the forme of making and consecrating Bishops, Priests, 02 Deacons, 02 haue any separated themselves from the society of the congregation and combined in a new Brotherhoode, 02 depraued & Synod lately held by th Kings authoritie?

4 Whether hath any in your parish maintained 02 defended any such Ministers 02 Scholemasters as refuse to subscribe to the order of the Church, haue they affirmed that such Ministers, and their adherents may make rules, and order in causes Ecclesiasticall without the Kings authoritie?

5 Whether doth any in your parish prophane, violate, 02 mispend the Sabbath, 02 holy daie, 02 any part of them vsing any offensive conuersation, 02 worldly labour in those daies, 02 any of them?

6 Whether hath any in your parish, in time of diuine seruice covered his head, albeit he haue infirmity, in which case a cap 02 nightcap is allowed, 02 is there any who hath not reverently kneled when the generall Confession, Letanie, and other prayers are read, and which haue not stood vp at the saying of the Beliefe?

7 Whether hath any in your parish disturbed the Seruice 02 Sermon by walking, talking, 02 any other way, 02 departed out of the Church, during the seruice 02 sermon without some vrgent cause, 02 loytered about the Church, 02 church porch?

8 Whether doe all parishioners receiue the holy communio thise every yeare at the least, whereof the feast of Easter to be one, & haue all being of the age of 16. yeares duly receaued, 02 not?

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9 Whether hath any Parent ben byged to be present, or admitted to answer as God-father for his owne child, or hath any God-father or God-mother made any other answer or speech, than is prescribed by the Booke, or haue any bene admitted for such at baptisme, who haue not first receiued the Communion?

10 Whether both all fathers, mothers, masters, mistresses come and cause their children, seruants, and appoyntifes to come dailie to the church, according to the ministers direction, to be instructed and catechised, or who be they that haue not obeyed the minister herein?

11 Whether haue any persons married together within the degrees of consanguinitie or affinitie prohibited, set forth in a Table appointed to be placed in euery church, or haue any married or contracted themselves vnder the age of 21. yeares, without the consent of their Parents, or Gouernours, if their Parents be dead?

12 Whether haue any persons once lawfully married, forsaken each other, or doe line a sunder without the authoritie of the Ordinary, or doe any being diuorced or separated, marrie againe the former wife or husband yet lining?

13 Whether haue any bene married in 4 times wherein mariage is by law restrayned, without lawfull license, viz. from the Saturday next before Aduent Sunday, vntill the foureteenth of Januarie: and from the Saturday next before Septuagesima Sunday vntill the Sunday next after loewe Sunday: and from the Sunday before the Rogation weeke, vntill Trinitie Sunday?

14 Whether hath any of your parish vnreuerentlie bled your minister, or haue any laid violent hands vpon him, or disgraced his Office and Calling by word or deede?

15 Whether haue you in your parish anie dweller or sojourner, a maintainer of Popish doctrine, or suspected to keepe scismaticall books, or to sauaour any heresie or error?

16 Whether haue you any common resorts to your church, which are not of your parish, or doe anie such receaue the communion amongst you: what be their names, and of what parishes are they?

17 Whether haue anie in the time of service, opened their shops, exercised their trade, bled anie gaming, bene in anie Tauerne, or Alehouse, or otherwise ill employed?

18 Whether are there in your parish any Adulterers, Fornicators, incestuous persons, bawdes, reccauers, close sauourers, conueyers a way, or which suffer to depart any incontinent person unpunished, any blasphem.

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blasphemers, Common swearers, Drunkards, Rybonds, Usurers, malicious slaunderers, Scolds, o2 sowers of discorde, o2 any defamed of the said crimes?

19 Whether doe any in your Parish administer the goods of the dead without authoritie, o2 suppress their will o2 Testament, haue any Executors neglected to perfoyme their Wills, especiallie in paying of Legacies giuen to the church, to the poore, o2 to any other charitable, o2 godlie vses?

20 Whether doe any refuse to paie to the reparations, ornaments, and other things required in your church, as they are ceased by a lawfull bestrie, o2 any dwelling out of your parish, which hold land in your Parish?

21 Whether hath any person suspended o2 excommunicated, bene suffered to heare Diuine seruice, o2 the sermon, to receiue the sacraments, to be married o2 churched, o2 haue any Excommunicants bene buried in christian burialle?

22 Whether haue any in your Parish bene christened, churched, buried, o2 receiued the communion, o2 ben married out of your church, both parties dwelling in your Parish?

23 Whether haue all women in your parish deliuered of child, come at convenient time after to church to giue thanks, and haue they bene churched according to the Booke of common prayer?

24 Whether hath the perambulation of the circuit of your Parish bene obserued once euerie yere, if not whose default is it?

25 Whether haue any in your Parish giuen the churchwardens o2 Aldermen, o2 any of them euill words fo2 doing thier dutie, according to their oath and conscience in making presentment fo2 any fault.

Touching Church-wardens and Swormen.

Whether doe any in your Parish take bypon them to be churchwarden o2 Alderman, which is not lawfully chosen by the Minister and Parishioners according to the Canon, o2 doe any continue that Office longer than one yere, except they bee chosen againe, and are all such Officers chosen yerele in Easter weeke?

2 Whether doe your churchwardens within one Moneth at the most after their yere ended, befoze the Minister and Parishioners, giue by a iust account of all such monie, and other things, as they haue receiued and bestowed? haue they deliuered all remaining in their hands belonging to their church o2 parish, by bill indented to be deliuered to the next churchwardens?

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3 Whether haue the Churchwardens with the aduise of the Vestry from time to time provided a sufficient quantity of fine white bread, and holsome wine for the number of Communicantes?

4 Whether doe the Churchwardens and Wdymen before such a Visitation, and at other times when there is such occasion, meete and conferre about their presentments, and the answering of these Articles, and who hath latter notice giuen him of the time and place, carelesly absented himselfe?

5 Whether the forfeiture of xij. s. for absence from Church, appointed by Statute to the use of the poore, be taken and leuied by the Churchwardens, and employed according to the same Statute: and whether is the same forfeiture taken of all persons which stand fully suspended or excommunicated?

6 Whether haue any churchwardens lost, sold, or defrayed any Cows, Ornamentals, Bells, Rents, or Implements of the Church?

7 Whether doe you the Churchwardens and Wdymen about the middle of diuine service usually walke out of the Church, and see who are abroad in any Alehouse, or elsewhere absent, or otherwise employed, and haue you presented all such to the Wdymarie?

8 Whether doe you know, or haue heard a fame of any offence committed, or dutie omitted by any of your Parish before your time, and heretofore not presented to the Wdymarie, or as yet not reformed, and haue you presented the same?

9 Finally, doe you know of any matter or cause which is a breach of the lawes Ecclesiasticall here not expressed, and haue not presented the same?

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